

The London Mayors' Association

Association

www.londonmayors.org.uk



NEWSLETTER

No. 19 Autumn 2005

Inside: On Her Majesty's Service • Visit to Windsor Castle • Annual General Meeting

BEATING RETREAT

On a balmy June evening, Horse Guards Parade, resounded to the stirring sounds of the Massed Bands of the Household Division as they performed Beating Retreat, one of the major spectacles in the capital's ceremonial calendar, in the presence of the Members of the London Mayors' Association.

The event started at 7 pm with the salute being taken by Her Royal Highness the Princess Royal.

Beating Retreat has its origins in the early years of organised warfare when the beating of drums and the parading of Post Guards heralded the closing of camp gates and the lowering of flags at the end of the day. Today it has become a familiar twilight ceremony reserved for special occasions and preceded by a display of music and marching.

The participants of Beating Retreat are drawn from the bands of the two Household Cavalry Regiments and the five Foot Guards Regiments which make up the Household Division. These bands are an essential part of State Ceremonial from Changing of The Queen's Guard at Buckingham Palace to Trooping The Colour and the State Opening of Parliament.

After Members were shaken by the firing of two guns by the Kings Troop during a rendition of Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture, they retired to Westminster City Hall, where the Lord Mayor of Westminster hosted a Dinner.

continued overleaf...



A guardsman being chatted up by Helen Watson & Cllr Doreen Weatherhead



The Massed Bands of the Household Division

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BEATING RETREAT

...continued

The Mayor of Wandsworth enjoying dinner with Cllr Ernest Tomlin following Beating Retreat



Helen Watson, Elaine Ingram and The Speaker of Hackney waiting for Beating Retreat to start



The Lord Mayor welcomes members to his first Dinner as Lord Mayor after Beating Retreat (with the Mayor of Harrow)



The Mayor of Wandsworth



Bryan Collier and Cllr Marie Collier



The Kings Troop add the bang to the 1812 Overture

ON HER

The Executive Committee of the London Mayors' Association were invited to a special private tour of the Foreign Office in Whitehall.

The buildings now comprising the Foreign Office have a fascinating history. When the Foreign Office was created in 1782, its small staff was easily accommodated in two houses at Cleveland Row, St James's. But by the late 1820s, the Foreign Office had moved to several houses in Downing Street. However there were many problems with these houses. An underground stream made the area very boggy and the foundations of some of the houses were so poor that one had fallen down. In addition there was the vibration from printing presses in the attic storey. When dangerous cracks appeared in walls plans were made to construct a new purpose built building.

In 1856 a government competition for plans for new Foreign and War Offices on the Downing Street site was announced and in 1858 after a protracted argument on the form of the redevelopment (the 'Battle of the Styles' between those favouring Gothic or Classical architecture) George Gilbert Scott was appointed as architect.

Scott had envisaged a Gothic Foreign Office, but this was not approved by Lord Palmerston and although a compromise Byzantine solution was offered, it too was rejected. Palmerston refused to countenance anything other than a building in the classical style and Scott finally succumbed and produced drawings for the building we know today.



MAJESTY'S SERVICE

Rosemarie Barden, Wenda Belam and Maxi Martin discuss the visit to the FCO

Work began in 1861-2 and the new Foreign Office eventually opened for business in July 1868. The new War Office on the site next to the Foreign Office never materialised and the area was taken over by the newly created India Office. Scott retained responsibility for planning the exterior of the building, but the interior was designed by the Surveyor of the former East India Company, Matthew Digby Wyatt. Scott proceeded with plans for the new Colonial and Home Offices, which extended the block to Whitehall.

After the India Office ceased to exist as a separate ministry in 1947, the Foreign Office took over the rest of its building, mainly for use by the greatly enlarged German Department. The merger of the Foreign and Commonwealth Offices in 1968 and the removal of the Home Office to Queen Anne's Gate in 1978, led in time to the occupation of the whole of Scott's building by the FCO.

The Tour included the stunning "Durbar Court" (the scene of some of King Edward VII's Coronation festivities) and the suite of three reception rooms, magnificently decorated and designed by Scott for diplomatic entertainment, the Locarno Suite, used for the signing of the Treaty of Locarno in 1925.

We were also shown into the Foreign Secretary's private office with its stunning views of Horse Guards Parade and St. James's Park.

After the tour, organised by our member Graham Holland, who works in the Foreign Office, members adjourned to the East India Club for supper.



Carolyn Doe and our FCO guide



Members congregating for the Tour



Cllr Bryan Collier & Graham Holland get down to business



Rosemarie Barden inspects the Locarno Suite



◀ Cllr Dennis Doe and his wife Carolyn enjoy the post FCO tour Dinner (and each other)



Hon. Ald. Beryl Jeffrey in the Courtyard of the Foreign Office

Cllr Joe Trotter and Jean Trotter



The Mayors of Haringey and Wandsworth



The Mayors of Tower Hamlets & Brent and the Mayoress of Brent



The Civic Ambassador of Newham and her consort



The Mayor of Harrow and her Teddy

New Mayors Reception

As has become traditional, in mid June this year, the newly installed Lord Mayor of Westminster, Councillor Tim Joiner, as President of the London Mayors' Association, hosted a Reception for the new Mayors of the London Boroughs.

During ones year in office, the Mayors and two Lord Mayors of the thirty three London Boroughs will frequently find themselves at the same functions. That is why, the London Mayors' Association reception is important for the newly installed Mayors to meet each other at an informal occasion, early on in their term of office.

It is also an opportunity for the Executive Committee of the London Mayors' Association to meet the new Mayors and to encourage those who have yet to join the London Mayors' Association, to do so. Last year (2004-2005) all thirty three joined the LMA and so this year we had a tough target to equal. *[As we go to press all but one of the 33 Mayors have joined.]*

We were also honoured that Alderman David Brewer, then Senior Alderman before the Chair and subsequently elected on Michaelmas Day as Lord Mayor of London elect, was able to attend the Reception to meet the Mayors who will overlap with half his Mayoral year.

Councillor Robert Davis, Chairman of the London Mayors' Association gave a speech about the work of the LMA and the benefit of being a member of such an exclusive club.

The Reception was sponsored by Robert Bone the Executive Director of the London Parade and Festival who also spoke and talked about the 20th Anniversary London Parade which will take place on 1st January 2006.

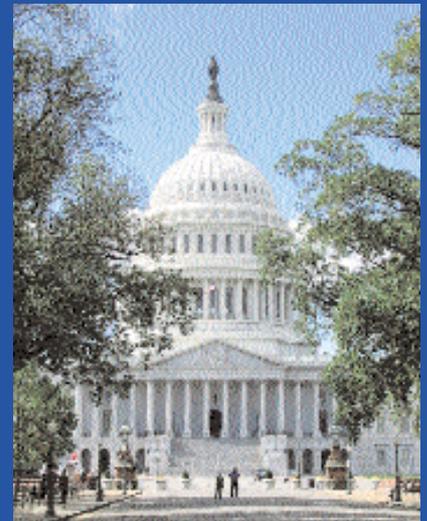
WASHINGTON DC

Following the success of previous London Mayors' Association foreign civic visits including the trip to Rome in March 2005, arrangements have been made for the 2006 Annual Civic Visit to be to Washington DC (Capital of the United States of America) and Richmond (the Capital of the State of Virginia).

The delegation will leave London on Wednesday 15th March 2006 and will return overnight on Sunday 19th March 2006 (arriving early on Monday 20th March 2006).

The trip will include visits to the major landmarks as well as a series of political meetings with both local and national politicians as well as British Diplomats from the British "Washington DC" Embassy. On the Saturday we will make a day trip to Richmond the Capital of Virginia.

Application forms are enclosed with this newsletter.



The Capitol, Washington

TERMINAL 5 HEATHROW

The world's most successful airport development

*Helen Watson,
London Mayors' Association Secretary*

The emerging Terminal 5



Members around a model of Terminal 5



Cllr Ronnie Barden, the Mayor and Mayoress of Harrow and Cllr Albert Kanjee

Thirty LMA Members were treated to a rare day of VIP treatment combined with fascinating facts during a day spent at Heathrow's new Terminal 5.

Starting with an in-depth briefing which included details of the longest public enquiry in British history which resulted in BAA having the go ahead to build the terminal and the extensive environmental work involved in the preparation of the site.

Boarding an airport bus a conducted tour of the site was viewed with somewhat

amazement – the largest roof span in Europe, built on the ground then raised on girders for the building to be constructed underneath; 14 kms network of tunnels to service the terminal, passengers, flight crews, catering, goods and staff; and an 87 metre Control Tower twice the height of the present Heathrow Tower.

A delicious buffet lunch followed, during which an Archaeologist made an excellent presentation about the archaeological site discovered during excavation work. The

largest archaeological site in Britain, some 80,000 artefacts were removed for preservation, some of which will be on display in a special exhibition in the new terminal departure lounge.

Five key stages take T5 from site preparation to implementation of operational readiness, culminating in the arrival of the first flight on a specific date in March 2008 at 1600 hours, after which some 30 million passengers per year will pass through the Terminal doubling the capacity of Heathrow.



Our new (albeit temporary) Judge Cllr Joe Trotter with Cllr Ronnie Barden

Left: Cllr Anne Mallinson (as Lord Mayor of Westminster Locum Tenens) with others sitting in Court awaiting the Verdict!

A Life Sentence was nearly imposed on Members of the London Mayors' Association when they visited the Law Courts at the Royal Courts of Justice in the Strand in May. A fascinating tour around the Victorian buildings included the corridor containing an exhibition of the Robes and wigs worn by different Judges over the years. Members then sat in a Court and after an explanation of how the Court operates and

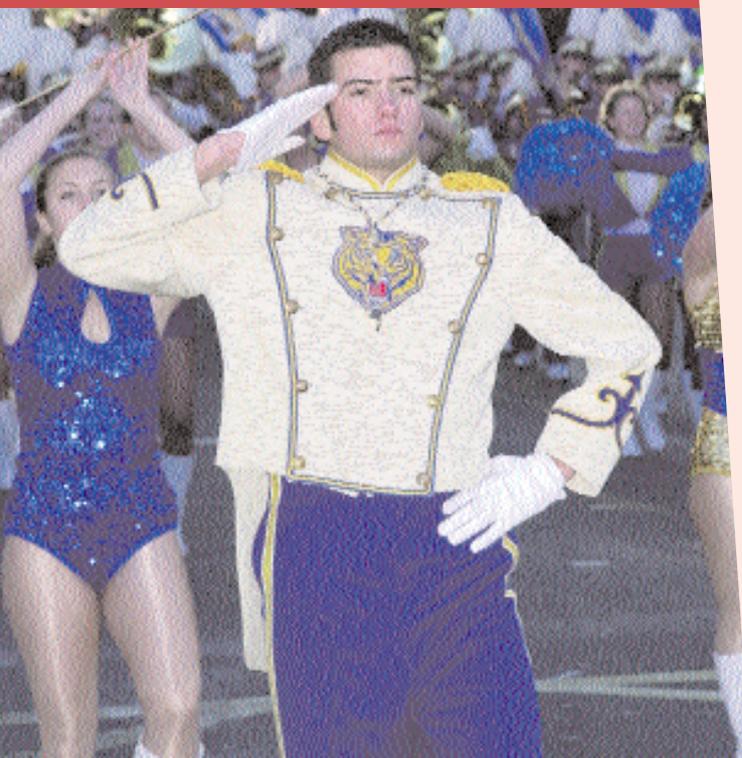
who sits where, Members were allowed to put on a Judge's wig and sit in the Judge's Chair and give sentence on their fellow Members. After the enjoyable and interesting tour, Members enjoyed afternoon tea in the Bankruptcy Court but left still solvent. Thanks go to Councillor Martin Smith a Member of Havering Council who works at the Law Courts, for arranging the visit.



Time marches for *Histo*



The countdown to the 20th Anniversary New Year's Day Parade is underway – with a record number of London's Boroughs and their Mayors already on board. Massive media interest has ensued with the BBC signed up as media sponsors – and the entire event being screened live in America.



But with just a few weeks until Big Ben booms 12 Noon on January 1st 2006 there are still six boroughs yet to commit to the event.

"It would be disappointing if we didn't get a full house on our big birthday" said Bob Bone, the Parade's Executive Director.

"We are offering those still to make a final decision every assistance in finding a suitable entry – and the BBC will be featuring items on air to get local people stimulated to come forward with ideas and offers.

NOT TOO LATE

"It is not too late – and they won't have to commit to huge amounts of work. We will do a lot of it for them."

Fittingly enough on such a historic occasion, history is the theme for the 2006 Let's Help London Challenge – giving London's Mayors the chance to tell the world just what makes their part of London such a special place.

Historic events, trades or traditions could all be the subject of a Borough entry – taking a look

The sparkling package includes

back over all that has happened in their Borough since the first Parade 20 years ago. The more colourful and creative the better chances of attracting the judges' eye or winning the coveted BBC London People's Prize text vote.

And those that do get their acts together will be set to scoop their share of a massive fund dedicated to London's Mayoral charities.

The prize fund for The Let's Help London Challenge – awarded to the best Borough entries – now stands at more than £30,000, and all entries take a share of the street collection made on the day.

"People are obviously in a generous mood on January 1st" said Bob, "They really do dig deep – especially if they like a particular entry!"

"Mayoral charities could be around £50,000 better off come the end of our 20th Anniversary parade – a great boost at the beginning of the year."

And it's not just about charity money to the Mayoralities that enter – it is huge fun too.



on ric Parade

Mayoral les:

- A pre-Gala Concert reception at Westminster City Hall
- A sumptuous New Year's Day Brunch at One Whitehall Place
- A post-parade Awards tea
- An open top bus ride before the hundreds of thousands thronging the streets
- Grandstand seats for the big show

In addition, Mayors of participating Boroughs will receive an allocation of tickets, and their own personal invitations, to a special LMA gala concert at Westminster Central Hall on December 30th

The legendary Jerry Hoover – one of America's leading exponents of the concert band genre – is the New Year's Day Parade & Festival Musical Director and will be taking personal charge of the evening.

And what a night it promises to be – with the world-renowned Missouri State University Pride Bands taking centre stage.

For further
information about the
20th Anniversary

**NEW YEAR'S DAY PARADE
LONDON**

call the event offices on
020-8566 8586

Visit the event's website on
www.londonparade.co.uk

Visit to Winds

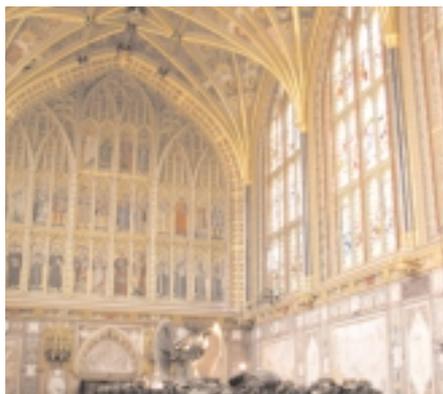


Members were royally impressed by their VIP tour of Windsor Castle in September. The visit (which took place after the public had left) included a walk around St. George's Chapel escorted by senior Stewards who told us about the history of the Chapel.

Cllr Robert Davis with the Mayor and Mayoress of Windsor and Maidenhead at Dinner in the Castle Hotel



Deborah Bell, former Lady Mayoress of Westminster



Inside St. George's Chapel



Rosemarie Barden perusing Her Majesty's Armoury

St. George's Chapel is the spiritual Shome of the Order of the Garter, Britain's senior Order of Chivalry founded by King Edward III in 1348. Members were shown the sword, banner and shield of the late Sir Edward Heath, a member of the Order of the Knights of the Garter, which used to hang above Sir Edwards pew in the Choir Stalls of the Chapel.

Members also saw the Albert Memorial Chapel and the new smaller side Chapel where King George VI, and the late Queen Mother are buried with the ashes of the late Princess Margaret.

Members were then joined by Donald Insall the renowned architect and conservationist who led the team of architects who restored the Castle after the Great Fire in 1992. Donald explained all about the fire and the superb restoration work that followed and illustrated his talk with amazing slides of the fire, the damage and the restored Castle.

or Castle



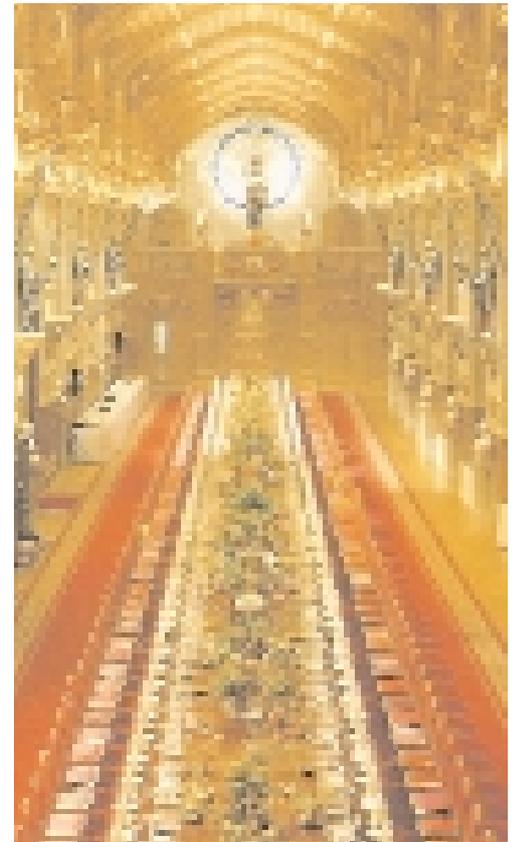
Cllrs David Payne, Michael Lewis, Peter Gardner & Ronnie Barden with Rosemarie Barden



Donald Insall joins the Mayor of Wandsworth at Dinner at the Castle Hotel



Cllr Dennis Doe & Carolyn Doe in the grounds of Windsor Castle



The restored St. George's Hall

We were then divided into two groups for a tour of the State Apartments of the Castle itself. We were the only guests in the Castle and we were given a superb tour by two excellent guides who explained all about the history of the Rooms as well as explaining about the effect of the 1992 Fire. We were accompanied by Donald Insall who also told us much about the factors that went into consideration of how to reconstruct the damaged rooms.

We were also taken into areas of the Castle that are not normally accessible by the public including the Kitchens where all formal dinners are cooked. These are the oldest continuously working kitchens in Europe and probably the world and were the envy of the cooks amongst the Members present.

The tour of the State Apartments included the Waterloo Chamber (renamed during the recent French President's visit to "the Music

Room"), the Garter Throne Room, the Kings Bed Chamber and the beautifully restored St. George's Hall. We were also taken around the semi-state apartments including the Crimson Drawing Room which had just been used by the Prince of Wales to entertain his guests the night before.

After a glass of wine and an opportunity to buy gifts and mementos in the Castle Shop, Members adjourned to the neighbouring Castle Hotel where we enjoyed a sumptuous Dinner. We were honoured that the Mayor & Mayoress of Windsor and Maidenhead Cllr Eric Wiles and his wife, were able to join us for Dinner as our guests of honour. The Mayor was particularly delighted to have been invited as he had spent a large part of his life living in London.

A special thanks goes to Cllr Ronnie Raymond-Cox for helping to organise the visit.



The Mayor of Bromley in St George's Chapel's Cloisters

Annual General Meeting



Cllr Doreen Weatherhead working hard selling LMA Insignia

The AGM in full progress in William Kent House



The Mayor of the Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea and the Mayor of Hillingdon

The Mayor and Mayoress of Waltham Forest and Cllr Joe Trotter

Above: Cllr Catherine Rideout and Cllr Anne Manning (both former Mayors of Bromley) and Alan Manning

Stephen Boxall (General Manager of the Ritz Hotel) and Cllr Brian Coleman (Deputy Chairman of the Greater London Assembly)



Cllr Doreen Weatherhead & Rosemarie Barden



Cllr Robert Davis and guest speaker Mr Nick Thompson



The Chairman of Lewisham Council and Mrs Les Eytel



Cllr Bob Belam and his wife Wenda with Cllr Michael Lewis and his wife



The Mayor of Lambeth and her consort with former Mayor Cllr June Fewtrell and former Mayoress Pat Creutzberg

The 2005 Annual General Meeting of the London Mayors' Association was held amongst the splendours of William Kent House tucked away behind the Ritz Hotel in Arlington Street.

Designed by William Kent in the 1740s (architect of Horse Guards) and built for Henry Pelham (the 2nd Prime Minister following Walpole in the mid 18th Century), William Kent House (as it is now known) has been beautifully refurbished and restored, closer to its condition in Pelham's day than at any time since the 18th century. Much of the original scheme survives: the Great Room and other ceilings, the staircase and the front facade.

After Pelham's death, the House became home for the Wimborne family but was then subsequently acquired by Eagle Star

in 1947. A modern office building built in front of it, hides it from public view and so it is one of the hidden secrets of historic London. The House was recently acquired by the owners of the Ritz Hotel to extend the Hotel's facilities with works due to commence in 2006. This was an opportunity to see the great House before such works commenced and the House becomes part of the Banqueting Suite for the Ritz Hotel.

The formalities of the AGM went smoothly with Councillor Robert Davis re-elected as Chairman for his eighth year as Chairman or Executive Chairman (the role changed its name by dropping "Executive" after the 2004 AGM). Councillor Ronnie Barden was re-elected Vice Chairman with Michael Chartes re-elected Hon. Treasurer.

The London Mayors' Association were also delighted that Helen Watson had agreed to remain as Secretary. The Association finances were very robust and the Members heard about the activities (both past and future) of the Association.

The Members were then enthralled to listen to a talk about the history of William Kent House by Nicholas Thompson, a renowned architect, who has written a book on the House. Nicholas also took the opportunity after the formalities of the AGM, to give personal tours of the House.

Members also enjoyed a Reception in the formal rooms of the House where they were able to meet up with friends and meet senior staff from the Ritz Hotel, who had kindly allowed us to use the House for the Afternoon.

Annual Inter-Borough Small-bore Rifle Shooting Competition

On September 10th the 95th London Mayors' Association Annual Inter-Borough Small-bore Rifle Shooting Competition was won by The Royal Borough of Kingston-upon-Thames for the second year running.

Until last year Kingston had never before won the competition even though their team had been competing from the competition's inception in 1911. The team which represents Kingston was founded even earlier, - 1901!

Five Boroughs reached the Final, which was shot at the Ham & Petersham Club, - Barnet, Harrow, Kingston, Richmond and Wandsworth. All five teams had enthusiastic and very vocal support from their current Mayor or immediate past Mayor.

This year, the winner (Kingston) was decided only on the tenth and last shoot, - very exciting! Three other teams competed for being Runner-Up, the winner being Harrow. Kingston received the Dawnay Silver Cup, presented in 1911 by a former Mayor of Wandsworth, and retained each year by them, together with the Gerry Harsant Shield, which goes to the winning Borough.

The Competition was organised by Executive Member Councillor Dennis Doe on behalf of the LMA, with great assistance from the National Small-bore Rifle Association, - one Mrs. Denise Doe - no relation!



The Deputy Mayor of Kingston upon Thames with the winning Kingston Team



The Mayor of Richmond, The Deputy Mayor of Kingston upon Thames and participants



The Dawnay Silver Cup won by Kingston

MAYOR'S CHAIN STOLEN

Extract from *The Times* on 18th June 2005

'A Thief has snatched the Mayor of Greenwich's ceremonial gold chain. The robber aged about 16, attacked the Mayor's driver in Plumstead Common as he placed the Chain of Office in his boot. After a brief struggle, the teenager grabbed part of the solid gold chain and fled.'

The Mayor of Greenwich later told the London Mayors' Association that the thief only got away with a few links from the chain and that these were now being replaced by Garrards the Jewellers.



The Mayor of Greenwich
Cllr Dr Paul Tyler wearing the Chain of Office

Strengthening the Mayoralty

The London Mayors' Association has established a small group, chaired by Cllr Ronnie Barden, to consider how the Mayoralty in London might be strengthened. As a start, the group would like to get a better idea of how the Mayoralty is working across London. Members are therefore asked to give the group a brief indication of what happens in the various London Boroughs.

Whilst some people find forms helpful, others heartily dislike them. However the group has prepared a Questionnaire for members to complete. This is enclosed with this Newsletter. Though if Members

would prefer just to use the form as a prompt for a letter, that would be acceptable. Please feel free to tell us things that you feel may be of interest even if we haven't asked about them on the form.

The London Mayors' Association hope Members will be able to find time in their busy schedule to help with what we believe could be a valuable project both for the Mayoralty as an institution and for all our Boroughs.

For more details contact:
Cllr Ronnie Barden,
47 Raymond Avenue
London E18 2HF

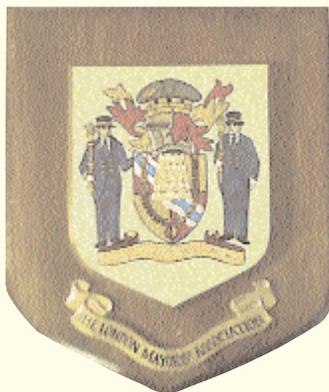
The new London Mayors' Association range of gifts is still available for Members to purchase. The range includes two styles for cufflinks, lapel pins and brooches. They can be purchased either as a cut-out of the full coat of arms or as a shield. The Lapel pins can also be purchased either with a single straight pin and clasp at the rear (to go through a lapel hole and fastened at the back) or with a safety pin clasp at the rear (ie affixed like a brooch). New style Ties are also available in blue, red, green and yellow.

Cufflinks	£ 20.00	Badges	£ 5.00
Brooches	£ 7.50	Ties	£ 20.00

Old Style Ties

A number of the old style Ties are still available in Red, Blue & Green. They are narrower than the new style ties and just have a single coat of arms at the top of the tie when worn. These are available at £5.00 each.

New London Mayors' Association Shields for sale



The impressive new London Mayors' Association Shield

The London Mayors' Association crest mounted on a wooden plaque to hang on the wall is now available to buy. The shields are £40.00 each. They are very impressive hung above the fireplace at home.

Orders for all the above can be made using the enclosed order form or by contacting Cllr Robert Davis at 8 Bentinck Street London W1U 2BJ (020 7486 9041).

CIVIC SERVICE

The Annual Civic Service took place again this year in Westminster Abbey courtesy of the Dean and Chapter. However, the Service was held after this Newsletter was sent to print and so an article with photographs will appear in the next edition of this Newsletter in the Spring of 2006.

Forthcoming Events

December 2005

Ambassadors Dinner

MONDAY 5 DECEMBER 2005
7.30 PM

The Annual Ambassadors Dinner will be held in the Lord Mayor of Westminster's Reception Rooms in Westminster City Hall. About ten Ambassadors and High Commissioners are attending including those from Denmark, Egypt, Finland, Germany, the Dominican Republic, New Zealand, South Africa, Barbados and Morocco. This is always a popular event and numbers are limited by the size of the room, so please book early. Application forms are enclosed with this Newsletter.

New Years Day 2006

The 20th London Parade

Participate in and join the fun at the 20th London Parade. More information can be obtained from www.londonparade.co.uk or calling 020 8566 8586

January 2006

The Half Yearly General Meeting

Details will follow in a mailing in the New Year

Barnet's House of Commons Dinner

SATURDAY 14 JANUARY 2005
7PM

The Mayor of Barnet is hosting a Dinner in aid of his charity, MIND at the House of Commons. Tickets are £50.00 each and are available from Mr David Miller of 45 Weymouth Street London W1G 8BY

February 2006

Annual Dinner

25 FEBRUARY 2006

Following the success of last year's Dinner, we will return to the SAS Raddison Portman Hotel in Portman Square for our 105th Annual Dinner. Invitations will be sent to all Members during the Christmas/New Year period.

March 2006

Civic Visit to Washington DC

15-20 MARCH 2006

Our annual Civic Visit to a foreign Capital City sees us off to Washington DC in March. Further details are enclosed with this newsletter.

April 2006

Visit to the Whitechapel Bell Foundry

6 APRIL 2006

Details of this interesting visit will be circulated early in the new year.

Visit to Ascot Racecourse

DATE TO BE CONFIRMED

Following the major redevelopment of the Ascot Racecourse which hopes to be open again for the 2006 Royal Ascot Week, Members have been invited on a VIP tour of the new Racecourse. The visit will include a light lunch. Details of the visit will be circulated early in the New Year.

The Whittington Walk

A SUNDAY TO BE CONFIRMED
IN APRIL

Anyone interested in supporting the incumbent Mayors on the Annual Dick Whittington Walk from Highgate to Mansion House one Sunday in April should contact Graham Holland on 020 8300 8553 or Holland51@aol.com

Elections 2006

ALL APRIL

Most Members will be spending April knocking on doors and kissing babies as the whole of London goes to the polls on Thursday 4 May 2005 to elect the 32 London Boroughs. Many of our members will be retiring from the Council and we wish them well on doing so and hope they will have more time to get involved with the London Mayors' Association. Those standing for re-election are wished "good luck".